DRUG EDUCATION, PART II

HEARING

BEFORE THE

SELECT COMMITTEE ON NARCOTICS ABUSE AND CONTROL HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-NINTH CONGRESS

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(99th Congress)

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DRUG EDUCATION, PART II

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 1986

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
SELECT COMMITTEE ON NARCOTICS ABUSE AND CONTROL,
Washington, DC.

The committee met, pursuant to call, at 10:15 a.m., in room 1310, Longworth House Office Building, Hon. Charles B. Rangel [chairman of the committee] presiding.

Present: Representatives Charles B. Rangel, Edolphus Towns, Benjamin A. Gilman, Joseph J. DioGuardi, and Stan Parris.

Staff Present: John T. Cusack, chief of staff; Elliott A. Brown, minority staff director; George R. Gilbert, staff counsel; Edward H. Jurith, staff counsel; Ronald A. LeGrand, staff counsel; Michael J. Kelley, staff counsel; James W. Lawrence, minority professional staff; Deborah Bodlander, minority professional staff; John S.V. Brown, Metropolitan Police detail; Khalil Munir, Customs detail; Catherine M. Chase, finance/administrative officer; Rebecca L. Hedlund, executive assistant; Barbara A. Stolz, professional staff; Vickie L. Sleiman, minority staff assistant.

The CHAIRMAN. The Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control will come to order.

We have with us Stan Parris and we will be joined by other members.

I want to personally welcome the Reverend Jesse Jackson for kicking off this morning's hearing. I also want to take this time out to thank the young people who will be going to quite a few different legislative hearings this morning but have selected us, have taken time out to come to hear what we are doing and not doing in this very serious area. I understand it is the Close-Up group here, a group from Queen Anne, and we welcome you to the nation's capital and, of course, specifically to the Congress and to the Select Narcotics Committee.

Yesterday we had the opportunity of having the Majority Leader kick off our hearings, and he was followed by Secretary of Education Bennett. I think it became abundantly clear from all the testimony in hearings we had around the country that notwithstanding agreements, pacts and treaties that we have entered into with friendly countries that we expect bumper crops in each one of the marijuana, cocaine and heroin producing countries.

Our Justice Department and those who have the responsibilities of controlling our borders and interdicting have made it abundantly clear that because of the tonnage involved, because of the inability to actually patrol the entire borders of the United States, that even if all of the resources that they have requested, including

better cooperation with the military, was given, that we should not and could not expect more than a 10 to 20 percent interdiction rate. This has led our Federal law enforcement officers to believe that the answers have to be found not only in eradication, interdiction and strict law enforcement but in the area of education.

In addition to that, our local and state police proclaimed around the country their inability to deal with this situation because of its national and international impact.

We were pleased that our Majority Leader will be requesting that the President call a White House conference of all the other heads of state that are involved in narcotic production and also call upon the Secretary of State to do the same with foreign ministers to see whether or not agreements can be reached to enforce international treaties and laws as relates to crop eradication.

We were surprised to find what the education plan was for our government, that Secretary Bennett would say that his idea of coping with the problem is zero tolerance, that kids who abuse drugs should be kicked out of school, that there was no Federal program that he identified or supported and acknowledged that only $3 million of an $18 billion education program was set aside for drug prevention. That was for training of teachers. He did agree to meet with the committee again and the staff, to meet with the committee.

But because of the inadequacies of the Federal Government in providing some type of education program for our children it makes the presence of Reverend Jesse Jackson even more important because he has conducted a one-man crusade around this country in bringing to our children the evils of drug abuse, and I can think of no one that has done more in this area.

At this point I would without objection place my opening remarks in the record.

[The statement of Charles B. Rangel appears on p. 21.]

The CHAIRMAN. Before I ask Reverend Jackson to testify, I would like to yield to the distinguished gentleman from Virginia, Congressman Stan Parris.

Mr. PARRIS. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

I just want to make two quick points before we hear the gentleman that will give us his views this morning. That is, first, Reverend Jackson came to a high school in my district, if memory serves, last Tuesday. We were in session and I was unable to attend, but the reviews were raves. I just wanted to publicly acknowledge the enormous amount of time and energy that this gentleman has contributed to this critical issue that faces the youth of our nation and our entire future for that matter, and I thank you for what you are doing.

Secondly, we are in the District of Columbia Committee hearing room, a committee on which I serve, and in a hearing in this room last week on the subject of crime in the District of Columbia, which is not uniquely or extraordinarily different, I would guess, from any city around the nation, the testimony from the police chief of this city was that in the last year or two or some recent period two out of three people that were arrested for serious crime tested positive for drug use. I think that is a stark reminder that the drug situation, aside from the enormous debilitating impact it has on

human beings, also contributes dramatically to some of the problems we have in society, particularly criminal activity to support that habit.

I think, Mr. Chairman, your hearing this morning and the presence of Reverend Jackson is a very good step forward in addressing the problems of our nation in this regard, and I thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Reverend Jackson, you may come forward to testify and your entire statement will be entered into the record. Again, on behalf of the committee we want to thank you for the tremendous contribution that you have made in the area of drug education for our young people throughout this nation of ours; and as the Congressman from Virginia has pointed out, members of this committee are very anxious to join with you when you are visiting some of the schools nearby or in their home districts because you have provided a hope to the children throughout the communities and to the nation. So I congratulate you in your effort and we will be supportive. You can testify in whatever manner you feel comfortable. Thank you for being with us.

STATEMENT OF REV. JESSE JACKSON, FOUNDER OF PUSH FOR EXCELLENCE AND PRESIDENT OF THE RAINBOW COALITION, ACCOMPANIED BY SHARON ROBINSON, DIRECTOR, PUSH FOR EXCELLENCE

Reverend JACKSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Let me express my thanks to each of you for being considerate enough to invite us to be a part of this forum. We have sought to do this for a long time.

Before sharing my basic remarks, I would like first to introduce Miss Sharon Robinson. Sharon Robinson, a nurse and teacher by training, directs the Push for Excellence program that guides our work in these schools. Sharon is also the daughter of the late great Jack Robinson and has a great sensitivity on the problem area and a body of recommendations as to what we can do beyond this date. She has pulled together a portion of one of our tapes; and if it would be permissible, Mr. Chairman, we would like to show about a three-minute version of what happens in one of the schools.

The CHAIRMAN. The chair welcomes Miss Robinson who has made a name for herself in her own light professionally and that is well known in Washington and in the Congress, and we welcome her testimony this morning.

Reverend JACKSON. Is it permissible that we show this three-minute tape?

The CHAIRMAN. Without objection.

[Brief video tape shown.]

The CHAIRMAN. Reverend, before you continue, I would like to point out that this committee more than any other committee in the House has managed to take care of its business in a very nonpartisan way on all issues. I do not remember since we have been in business where there has been a partisan issue. This has been in no small part due to the dedication and the cooperation and the leadership provided by Congressman Ben Gilman, the ranking Republican member of this committee who would like to make an opening statement.

Mr. GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I too want to join in welcoming Rev. Jesse Jackson to the deliberations of our committee and for bringing an important message to us. He certainly has been a leader in the battle out there and on the battlefront to try to raise the public's consciousness to the problem and to encourage our young people to turn themselves from being involved with drug abuse.

As you all know, yesterday we had a very intensive discussion about Federal, State and local efforts with our Majority Leader, Congressman Wright, and the Secretary of Education, Mr. Bennett. Their thoughts and suggestions were noteworthy. We recognize we got a long way to go.

Reverend Jackson's appearance before our Narcotics Select Committee today highlights what one person can accomplish in our war against this very deadly menace, the menace of drug abuse, one that is sweeping across our nation. Drug abuse among our young people is growing at a very alarming rate, and more and more we are witnesses cocaine as the first drug of choice; and now even more insidious is the new form of cocaine, the use of crack, a form which has proven to be even more addicting than cocaine and to have a more devastating effect because it is less expensive and more available.

Drug abuse has swept across our nation's school yards with a fervor rarely matched; and while the law enforcement community battles the narcotics traffickers with every tool at their disposal, it is clear that this rising tide cannot be stemmed unless and until we place a comprehensive emphasis on the dire need for drug abuse education and try to find an effective way of getting that education process established and making it useful to all of our school systems.

Reverend Jackson's new campaign in our schools is certainly to be commended. It serves as a role model and a catalyst for our young people, serves as a clear alternative to the scourge of drugs. I look forward to hearing your views, Reverend Jackson, on the situation in our schools today and to explore with you what better initiatives we can undertake at the Federal level.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, Mr. Gilman.

[The statement of Benjamin A. Gilman appears on p. 25.]

The CHAIRMAN. Reverend Jackson.

Reverend JACKSON. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is the Reverend Jesse Jackson. I am founder of Push for Excellence and president of the Rainbow Coalition.

Demosthenes said, "Whom the gods would destroy, they first make mad." Americans, particularly our young, are being driven mad with drugs. Time, Newsweek, ABC-TV's "Nightline" have all helped to focus public attention on the general drug problem, but America still has not really come to grips with how drugs are affecting our youth.

While the government rightfully has the responsibility for stopping the supply of drugs from coming across our borders, the ultimate answer to the drug problem is to dry up the demand.

Through the Push-Excel program we have been conducting an anti-drug crusade in America's junior and senior high schools. We

are helping to expose and to pull the scab off a very ugly sore among America's youth. We are revealing just how pervasive the drug problem is.

Everywhere I go—inner city and suburb, among the rich and the poor, in urban and rural America—junior and senior high school young people are screaming "yes" in overwhelming numbers to five basic questions about their peers. I ask them: Do you know someone who is dead because of drugs? Usually about one-third will stand. Do you know someone who is in jail because of drugs? Usually about five-sixths of them or virtually all of them will stand. Do you know someone in your school who is using drugs? Virtually all will stand. Do you know someone who has brought a knife or a gun to schools? Right back up again they will stand. Do you know someone who has dropped out of school because of pregnancy? And they stand again.

My argument to students is that drugs are physically destructive, life threatening and will kill you. But to my dismay, too many students are unclear about the consequences of drug use. In discussion with students, it is my conclusion that for many young people, neither their minds nor their values reject drugs.

It is not only a threat to our young people and their future, but it is also a national security risk. Drug abuse in the military is at least as pervasive as it is in our schools, and they are using more and harder drugs. Thus, our soldiers are vulnerable to a "war of the opiate."

The first step in solving our drug problem is to recognize it as a problem, which most Americans do not. This denial is characteristic of a family with a member who is chemically dependent. The denial of a chemically dependent person is so strong that it extends to the other members of that person's family so that they too fall into the trap of either denying that a problem exists or that half measures will address the need.

Our nation has acted as that family. We have sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, fathers and mothers, aunts and uncles, cousins and in-laws who are chemically abusive and we deny and deny and deny that there is a problem or that their problem is our problem. It is time today for that denial to stop.

When an individual or a family has been engaged in denial for a long period of time, the situation requires intervention. Often there is a crisis which leads to intervention, but more frequently the members of that family declare a crisis and move to intervene.

The extent of drug use in America is a national disaster, and the sale and use of illegal drugs in our schools has created a state of emergency.

Our youth are pulled into the web of drug abuse through the new morality or, more accurately, lack of morals. At the same time they are pushed into drug abuse as an escape from pain.

The disease of chemical abuse grows in the fertile ground of pain: pain arising from poverty, from hunger, from fear, from a low self-concept, from abusive families, from a lack of opportunity.

The pain grows out of unemployment. Today's children watch, filled with pain and a sense of impotence, as their family's way of life is stopped short. Farm children watch demoralized as the land

of their fathers' fathers' fathers is transferred into the hands of bank, a bank which may itself fail the next day.

Factory children stand helpless outside the padlocked gates of factories that provided jobs for their families for generations. Urban children look out over the burned-out, crumbling buildings and parks taken over by an army of drug pushers. The eyes of rural children sting at the eroding topsoil blown into their faces. Both urban and rural children feel powerless as toxic wastes are pumped into the groundwater and buried in the ground. As their hope dies, they turn to escape.

The pain grows out of a low self-image. Our young people are beaten down every day with the concept that poor means bad, a concept that is reinforced in movies, on television, in magazines, and every other aspect of our culture. Our young people are beaten down every day by the vestiges of racism that is still in the process of being reinstitutionalized. Our young people are beaten down every day as victims of the cycle of physical, sexual and psychological abuse characteristic of dysfunctional families. As their spirit does, they turn to escape.

The pain grows out of fear, fear of nuclear conflagration or of being attacked in front of their own home, fear that is reinforced by the violent images on television, in entertainment programs and the evening news, fear that is reinforced by a society that places a higher premium on building weapons of destruction in space than on feeding the hungry on the ground. As life around them dies, they turn to escape.

The pain grows out of isolation and alienation. Our young people are born with a spirit that loves humankind, that loves life itself. But their spirit is turned away from a dehumanizing world. Their spirit is turned away from a world that seems committed to eradicating life. Their spirit is turned away, and to many it seems they have nothing to turn to.

But we can turn this thing around. As I travel around the country speaking in schools, thousands of junior and senior high school youth have come forward pledging to give life a chance and give themselves a chance by saying, "no" to dope and "yes" to hope.

We can help raise our children's image of themselves. We can give them a sense of power and control over their lives and their world. We can enlist them in the struggle to meet the challenges that face this generation and the next generation.

We can instill confidence in our young people. We have the resources and the skills to give them the intellectual, moral and emotional strength and courage to meet the challenges, if we will only make that a priority.

We can overcome their doubts and fears and sense of powerlessness by enlisting our young people in the struggle to infuse vigor into our economy, to foster greater international understanding, to build a healthy environment for this generation and the generations to come.

We can and we must put in the hands of our youth the tools to build a better world, a world from which they will not want to escape. When our young people understand the importance of effort, self-discipline, team work and character, when they understand these are the keys and the only keys to success, they will

find the motivation to chase the pusher out of the schoolyard, off the corner, out of the parks. They themselves will stop the supply.

The government, the school, the church, the media and the home all must play a part in the solution, but ultimately the key to making a difference in this problem is our nation's youth. Our young people must reject drugs and alcohol with their minds and their values. Anything short of that will fail.

Last then my conclusion is this: One, drugs are on the incline, they are being consumed now by the very young. Two, as we focus on cutting off the supply, a greater commitment to education as to the harmful ramifications, the demand for drugs by the very young is on the incline. Three, alcohol and drugs, liquor is being drunk by our young people as if it were adult soda pop. It enjoys total social acceptability. Four, in the glorification of the buzz, the high, the media, radio and television, is contributing to the brain paralysis in being made believable by the heroes and heroines of our young people.

Are politics involved? To the extent at which farm children fear the future, inner city young children fear the environment, our young people fear nuclear war.

The typical process is that the drugs attack the mind. The id takes over. Morals drop. The morale drops. Depression sets in. The end result is crime, jails and death.

What to do about it? One, we need to cut the supply. We need to have an all out war to cut the supply and see drug trafficking as the most active, operative form of terrorism affecting American society today. Out of a $16 to $18 billion educational budget, only $3 million is committed to drug education, which is totally disconnected from the reality of the pervasiveness of drug ignorance and drug abuse. That is a role for government.

Two, we need a massive countercultural movement with the singers, the artists, those who have access to minds, make it a cultural imperative.

Three, we need to see drug abuse as terroristic and neither age nor race nor status nor sex should be sanctuary because drugs are a national security issue.

Four, we need moral resistance.

Five, we need the assistance of mass media.

And, lastly, we are confronted with a civilizational crisis and a state of emergency. We must come together as in a time of war because we are, in fact, engaged in a way of the opiate.

Thank you very much.

[The statement of Jesse Jackson appears on p. 27.]

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much.

The chairman recognizes the presence of Ed Towns from New York and recognizes the gentleman from New York, Mr. Gilman.

Mr. GILMAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, I regret I have to attend a ceremony in a few minutes, and I will try to return, but I want to commend Reverend Jackson for his review and for his focusing attention on some of the problems.

Reverend Jackson, we are finding more and more as we get out amongst the enforcement community that they are indicating they

are doing what they can with supply and we have been focusing attention on getting to the source. This committee is traveling, as you know, to Latin America, to Asia, to major producing areas to put pressure on those governments to reduce the amount of supply.

We mean to introduce legislation, the Rangel-Gilman measure to cut off economic assistance to those nations who do not cooperate with us in reducing the supply of narcotics.

But all the law enforcement community and even the producing countries say what are you doing about demand? And, frankly, we are not doing very much about demand, and it is for that reason I am pleased to hear your approach to a greater need for education.

Just yesterday when our Secretary of Education appeared, let me quote from part of his testimony. Mr. Bennett said when we asked him what we should be doing, "What we want in the Department of Education is to get drugs out of the schools. We strongly support drug education programs, but almost every school in the country has a drug education program and we are still awash in drugs. We need to get tough. We need to be tough as hell," said Bennett, and his approach was to kick them out of the schools and out of the classrooms if they are drug abusers.

What are your comments with regard to that approach?

Reverend JACKSON. Number one, most schools do not have a drug education program, a stop drug abuse program. That is not a fact, and he cannot document that.

Number two, he misreads the pervasiveness of the impact of the drug culture as a socially acceptable lifestyle. As we challenge the students to ask the five basic questions that I raised today, I then challenge those who now see the danger, the impact, ask them do you think that taking drugs will tend to lead toward jail? Hands go up. Tend to lead to a premature death? Hands go up. Will make you do something you did not mean to do? The hands go up. I then say, do you think taking drugs is morally wrong? They say yes. Do you want to get well? Yes. And I then challenge them to have the courage, the inner strength to come forward. Usually three-quarters of the student body comes forward. More and more they ask, what about the teachers? And just yesterday some teachers came forward as well.

He is operating under the theory of get the rotten apples out of the barrel. What happens when the barrel has been rotted by this decay? You cannot—you would have to turn schools into jails. Surely he knows that dormitories are cheaper than reformatories. If one goes to the University of America for four years, it costs less than $20,000. You go to the University of Attica for four years and it will cost $146,000. It costs seven times more to lock them up for seven years than to educate them. Education is better than rehabilitation.

I submit that the Secretary is misreading the situation and his solution to kick them out of school into the streets just makes the streets more dangerous and into overcrowded jails.

Mr. GILMAN. Reverend Jackson, when you have the youngsters come forward and they make the commitment, where do we go from there?

Reverend JACKSON. First, there are about four levels of them when they come. One, some have tried it one time. They really

have the strength, have not been tested and have heard the challenge to say no. One is the problem we cannot get the message spread to enough places. We do not have in Push-Excel the technological equipment, the ability to get the message in many places scientifically.

Number two, some of them need a friend with whom they engage in drug usage, marijuana, crack as the case may be, to stand together.

Three, some of them are at the state where they need to talk with their teacher. Some others are at the point where they need to be hospitalized.

So they are like in stages, but all growing toward more dependency. When they come back to that class, those teachers need to be equipped to teach them about the biological, psychological and moral implications of it. Our schools are not prepared to handle those youth once they come forward.

Mr. GILMAN. So we have no structure out there to move in when you have them to the point where they make that commitment?

Reverend JACKSON. Yes, we do not and what we are watching is a pattern of where the national average of TV consumption is five hours of TV a night. So if they are choosing entertainment over education at night and they are in the twilight zone by day, then their grades drop; and when their grades drop, they become demoralized and depressed. The only thing that can get them back above that pain is one more high, which, of course, is moving on towards suicide.

We are going to need teachers equipped, we are going to need policemen, if you will, in a nonmilitary role. For example, I met with a group of policemen in Georgia two days ago who themselves teach about how to detect drug users by their eye dilation or any of a number of ways, but they teach it only to other police. So by this the police know more about how to detect it than teachers do; yet when police get it, it is already in the trauma zone. Teachers need to be at least as equipped on drug detection as are police, as a case in point.

There must be a new rapport between police in a nonarresting capacity coming in schools and teachers, teaching our children about what they find. Most of them have never seen a baby in withdrawal like in Congressman Rangel's district, not a "I couldn't sleep last night because the baby kept me up all night long" type of complaining with still a lot of love, but to see a baby where an ordinary child would reach for milk start having withdrawals because of drugs is an educational experience all by itself.

We need to show the results of drug abuse, not just a glorification of it.

Mr. GILMAN. Have you found any teacher programs out there in preparation for teachers to handle the drug problem?

Reverend JACKSON. There are a few schools, but the programs are inadequate. For example, they may have a room in the school or a teacher who ends up with the worst abusers, but it is not a program that reflects the state of the national emergency. It is almost like it reflects a small part of the emergency. We started with a web that could help everybody. The assumption is we can isolate the one or two. I submit to you it is just the opposite. It is a

massive cultural acceptance; and when you cut off the heavy stuff coming across the borders, the collapse is so great, the morale is so low they are now shooting aerosol spray up their nose to get high or they steal embalming fluid from the funeral house and they are literally embalming their brains or they make up combinations of the liquor and Quaaludes and other chemical formulas.

So I am concerned about is stopping it from across the borders, the kind of thing that Congressman Rangel is talking about, and Gramm-Rudman is a celebration for the drug pushers.

Mr. GILMAN. What is the most important thing we can do in Congress to improve the educational system with regard to drug abuse?

Reverend JACKSON. There will be three levels. Let me digress one second. If someone said today that three people down the street had on hoods and two kids have been found dead, we would want to stop the session. We cannot tolerate death by the rope. This is a terrible thing. Nine kids die on a weekend from the overdose. It must have been some impure stuff. We have learned to live with death by dope without excitement, without trauma, and yet death by rope turns us on. We have never lost as many children by the rope as we have by dope.

So, first, we must get excited about it and see it as a real terrorism that is taking place not just in foreign airports but in our schools and in our homes and on our corners.

Secondly, there must be a strong commitment to deal with those countries that are narcotics suppliers. We are talking about harvests and using economic leverage. We must stop the supplying countries.

Thirdly, there must be a commitment for a greater investment in teacher training, also for parent training and the training of mass media. This is the first generation, Mr. Gilman, where a child of 15 has seen 18,000 hours of television, listened to 24,000 hours of radio, compared with 11,000 hours of school and less than 3,000 hours of character education.

Not congressional people, not teachers, not parents, but the mass media has more access to our children's minds quantitatively and the impressions are deeper qualitatively than home, church, school and congressional people combined. So to leave them out of the equation of the solution is a big mistake. If we went to a school today and I said this is Congressman Rangel, we could be in Harlem and they would give a respectful applause. We could have a man who deals in laser physics and the same respectful applause. We could then say this is disk jockey Jo-Jo, and they go wild, which means that Jo-Jo must be a factor in the equation, Mr. Congressman, because Jo-Jo's signals are penetrating deeper than your reaction to his signals. You are focusing on these drug victims without even including Jo-Jo, the disk jockey, in the equation of the solution.

Mr. GILMAN. Thank you, Reverend Jackson, for taking time to be with us today. I regret I have to go to another ceremony. I will try to return.

Reverend JACKSON. May I—there are some young people here from New York. They have left.

Mr. GILMAN. They just had to leave.

Reverend JACKSON. I regret they have gone, because to show how indiscriminate and how broad based the situation is, one can with virtual certainty get a response from them that will confirm the test of the pervasiveness.

Mr. GILMAN. I do not think you have to confirm it with this committee. We recognize the severity of the problem and how deep it is and how broad it is across our nation, and it is for that reason that we welcome having a leader like yourself to come before us to focus attention on the needs.

Thank you.

The CHAIRMAN. Ben Gilman is working with me to coordinate with your staff in some way in which the members of this committee can attend one of your visits at local schools.

The chair would like to acknowledge the presence of Mr. Malcolm Lawrence, retired State Department official, who for several years has dedicated a lot of his life and years in the international arena. It is good to see you.

Mr. Parris.

Mr. PARRIS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I just want to reiterate that in viewing this brief tape it showed a lot more eloquently than my words what this witness is contributing to the youth of our nation, and I just wanted to say how grateful I am to him for what he is doing.

I agree with a great deal of what you said this morning, Reverend Jackson, particularly with sentences here that read, "Our young people themselves must reject drugs and alcohol with their minds and their individual values."

Many of us on this committee who have wrestled with this enormous problem for some time in one way or another simply have come to the reluctant conclusion, and speaking as one member, that public authority is probably incapable of interdicting the supply domestically and from across our borders of these substances; so that your sentence goes to the heart of the problem, which is that we must attempt in every way possible to reduce or eliminate the demand.

Now, I agree with 90 percent of what you say here, but one part of this that I want to ask you about was the important part of the scenario which is peer pressure for drug and alcohol. You talked to thousands of young people. I talked to my share. Some of them have the idea that it is cool to drink beer behind a local classroom or whatever. It is cheaper if you don't join in passing the joint around.

How do you address that factor in this whole equation and in your discussion with young people? How do you try to dissuade them from those peer pressures?

Reverend JACKSON. The public debate so far, Mr. Parris, has not dealt with this problem as a national security issue. It has not dealt with it as ultimately serious. It has been in the realm of relativity, so you have those who engage in conservatism, lock them all up, or boundless liberalism, which says it is your personal right. But, in fact, it transcends liberalism and conservatism. It is absolutely wrong morally and absolutely deadly. It really transcends the debate in these different milieus. We would make a mistake if we focus on the very young. We can dramatically show them in

school because they are there as a captive audience, and more and more they are saying now we made that courageous stand to come forward, what about the teachers? In one school 35 teachers came forward. Yesterday at a school four or five teachers came forward.

The more exposure to police on gauging the drug abuse—you see the Super Bowl one Sunday. You had the athletes glorified as bigger than life in everybody's house. A hundred million watch the football game, the Super Bowl, and on Monday morning the coach in the Boston Globe exposes perhaps he lost 44 to 10 because of players on drugs. The fact is the Globe knew about it that Friday but would not interfere with the Super Bowl game. Apparently the coach knew about it that Friday. That was a conspiracy of silence, choosing entertainment over ethical standards, choosing money over character; and our youth read those signals and that is why I appeal to all of us to see this as a deadly threat, and as life threatening, and we need the drama, as it were, from the White House to every level of influence to enlist those who have access to minds.

One thing comes to my mind. I remember several years we tried to say people are dying in Ethiopia and there was a debate about should Marxists starve or not, ideological debate. Then the artists did "We are the world" and now it is a human concept. No one has discussed Marxism in three years. It is about are we making progress in wiping out hunger. We need that kind of cultural infusion by those with maximum access to our young people's minds to say no.

Mr. PARRIS. Thank you very much, Reverend Jackson.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Towns.

Mr. TOWNS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Nice to see you, Reverend Jackson.

I had an opportunity about, I think, six or seven months ago to witness one of your visits. I was in New York at the Martin King High School, and I must admit that I could not believe my eyes at the young people that were just volunteering and walking up past their friends and peers, indicating they had been involved in drug addiction; and as I watched this and I checked further to find out the kind of programs that existed in New York City in particular as far as education and prevention is concerned, I found that the police department has probably the best education and prevention program. To me that is very disturbing.

I noticed that you mentioned that we should have—you stated we should have a drug abuse curriculum, but you did not say what grades it should start with. Where should we start?

Reverend JACKSON. The first grade. I was in "X" school—I do not want to put them on the spot—about six months ago down in a rural area, way down in the country, if you will. Children were there ages six through twelve. And when I made the challenge to come forward, about 200 of the 600 came forward, ranging in ages nine to fifteen. I was talking about the marijuana or coke or crack. One child wrote me a note and said, "Reverend, what about liquor?" Of course, that is the biggest drug that is being used. I said, "And those who experiment with liquor come forward." To see those children, six, seven, eight and nine coming forward was

just absolutely devastating. These children are moving into drinking liquor at six and seven.

I must tell you when their top heroes and heroines as athletes in August before the biggest ballgames are using the name recognition they have earned to be the sources of transmitting beer, which also gets you drunk, as socially acceptable, that is a factor in that. So in the school, yes, as an educational device, but we also need the mass, mass communicators' values to reject this.

Mr. TOWNS. Let me ask you, talking to the police department, they are saying that the only way it will work is with their involvement in the education programs because the administrators of schools will not admit that there is a drug problem. Even if 90 percent of the kids were high in the school, they will not admit the problem because there is a reflection on them. The fact that if they admit there is a drug problem, that means I am a lousy administrator and they are saying as a result of that it will not work effectively in the school system. I would like to get your reactions to that.

Reverend JACKSON. That is why in this instance we have to move past the traditional lines of finger pointing and begin to embrace each other. In this instance the teacher, the police and the mass media, black and white, Republican and Democrat must all join on the same team because there are certain levels where the teachers can help through education. At another level the mass communicators and the disk jockeys are, in fact, another level, and the police. Everybody can help along the line of scrimmaging, have an impact.

As I said, the police have more information about how to detect it than anybody, but their solution once they detect it is to lock them up; and when your jails are overcrowded already, obviously that is not a cost effective solution. What do we say, Mr. Congressman, when 600 children out of 900 walk down front and say that I have tried some level of drugs? What do we do with them? I ask you.

What do we do when 30 of their teachers join them? What do we do out here in the suburbs when they say they learned to drink from the private bar at home and that the professionals who we cannot get to walk down front, the doctors and the lawyers, those who can afford the coke, are taking it and they know it? The result here is the children lose respect for them and they do not have the moral authority to speak without being contradicted. If we focus just on the youth, it is a myopic view. There is a statement I keep using to the point of exasperation. We are looking at a state of national emergency. It is operative at every level. It is an absolute threat to national security, and I have gone on Army and Air Force bases. If they are not subject to court martial and immediate punishment, they would come forward in greater numbers than even the children. You suggest we purchase MX missiles and someone is giving away 21 barrels of free cocain, we can, in fact, weaken our defense because of the collapse in values.

Mr. TOWNS. Thank you very much, Reverend Jackson.

I have no further questions, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Reverend, those two bells you heard demand our presence on the Floor to vote, which will take no more than ten minutes. How is your schedule?

Reverend JACKSON. Whatever you say.

The CHAIRMAN. The chair will recess for the ten minutes, and at that time we will continue the witness' testimony.

[Recess.]

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will resume its hearings.

Reverend, you have given us a dramatic challenge and one which I hope your Congressmen and, indeed, your government is prepared to accept. As I pointed out here in the recess, the national emergency which we face is certainly acknowledged by Chief Justice Warren Burger of the United States Supreme Court where he has pointed out in his opinion the drug crisis is a far more serious threat to our national security than Communism, which I think is a pretty powerful statement since our country is prepared to invade any island, any city in order to protect people against Communism.

We will be working with the media, not to the extent that we should or that you suggest, in terms of getting the Advertising Council to play a more critical role in the educational process that we have; and, as you well know, we have to keep up our efforts in terms of eradication and strict law enforcement. But when it comes to the educational piece, my question—and you have answered it in part in answer to Mr. Gilman—in your travels have you seen in any school any program that you felt was worthy of your support?

Reverend JACKSON. I have not. I have seen efforts by some educators to face the fact of the problem which is a courageous step because in most instances there is an attempt to cover it up as if it was some personal reflection upon the teachers and the staff which, of course, is not the case. There is still a resistance to expose it, and those efforts where they are trying to deal with it are isolated. A teacher, in a room; if you feel you have a problem, stop by my room. Well, very few will take that step and those who do have to be taken on to the hospital usually. Often they just will talk with peers, which is, of course, a powerful influence. In some instances teachers whom they respect, a kind of talking, a kind of catharsis. But I have not seen a program in the school adequately funded with teachers equipped and the whole process of drug education and why one must say no to drugs.

The CHAIRMAN. Reverend, I do not know whether you ever get despondent and depressed as to why it appears as though no one is listening to what you are saying and doing, but the young people are. There is no question about those who are touched, who are able to see what you do in television, some in the audience who thank you for the contribution that you make.

But if I were to tell you that yesterday Ben Gilman and I and a couple other members of Congress were in the White House at a ceremony where the President of the United States claimed we have pulled down the flag of surrender and we have drawn up the flag of war in the area of drugs control and the whole message that he was giving was that his wife had created the Just Say No Campaign, and she spoke about that, and there is no question and that ended the presidential effort. Then when you find that the State Department makes no bones about the fact that they cannot control these countries, I mean not in the next decade. They are now saying that. Jack Cusack has spent all of his adult life in law en-

forcement, and he would be the first to admit they got a culture. They do not know how to say they got a problem that cannot be resolved with strict law enforcement as a rule, but even local and state and federal law enforcement officials are saying you got to do more than us, we cannot do it.

And so I agree with you that we have to turn it around. It is a moral question, a family question, a community question. We have to kick the traffickers out as traitors and do all of these things. I do not need an answer now, but we are going to need your recommendations because there has been no one who has been out on that battlefield as long as you have. We are trying to say you are not alone. We have legislation that we probably will be able to pass because people are in panic. They do not know what to do, and so we are just going to pass it.

I do not think that we have created the type of climate which is necessary to turn it around when we are talking about the media, the schools, the family, the community; but I do hope that when you and your staff come up with ideas, just based on what you have said in terms of the number of kids that are dying, I am asking staff at this point to see how we can identify with the hospitals where these ODs are taking place and every day in the Congressional Record I will enter their names as to the kids who have died as a result of drugs, and perhaps attempt to join with you in trying to focus attention on the tremendous price that we are paying.

The military fully knows that you cannot protect the country if the minds and bodies of those people in the Service are not healthy and able to do it. It should be that you should be cooperating with us, but the leadership is not here. And so our staff is very anxious to put into legislative form and get the type of support for the programs which you think would be meaningful and to give you the type of support as you try to capture the imaginations of Americans to try to protect their country and their children.

I yield to the witness.

Reverend JACKSON. You know, Ben Frank in the book Search for Meaning, a concentration camp experience, concluded if ›n has a why for living he will endure the how. And let's look a‹ › blockage in our children's minds relative to their future. I debated this matter on TV with Secretary Bennett, who dismissed part of the analysis as just politics. But hope is a great antidote to dope. A future worth living motivates people to do all kinds of things for that future, including getting prepared for that future. But where they see no light at the end of the tunnel, a few people by comparison would rather pursue drugs. I am observing a whole generation of youth who are on the drugs to avoid the pain, the pain of an uncertain life, the pain of tomorrow. I talked to many youth in the farm communities who are into drugs. They feel impotent and sometimes guilty about not being able to do anything about saving that family's farm. They are very wed to that land, and they have been taught to be afraid of the city, do not want to leave the country, afraid to go to the city, and so for them drugs is anesthesia.

I was in jail with two of my sons on the South Africa demonstration, and we were with 25 young people all night, all of them with some drug-related situation. No father at home. I might add their

basic argument is not only can you make money pushing drugs; but if you get a diploma you cannot get a job anyhow. Others generally fear a nuclear holocaust. They genuinely fear that. You consider that in South Carolina alone they have nine nuclear reactors, four plants, three nuclear reactors on the Savannah River, plants built on a fault without containers, three nuclear reactors making H-bombs built on a fault on the Savannah River. They know what happened.

So these children are not as innocent as they are young. Because they are afraid to face the future they turn to love and making babies, short-term pleasure, long-term pain. They move towards drugs and alcohol not to face the whole situation and they look back stumbling as they go.

But there is something to be said about a bright tomorrow that inspires people to get the highest and best use of their lives, so we really cannot totally separate this from our children feeling that there is no tomorrow for them.

The CHAIRMAN. I am sure the gentleman from New York would want to respond.

Mr. DIOGUARDI. I certainly want to thank you for your excellent testimony, and I am delighted to meet you personally and witness, as many others do, the good works you have done in the community. We try to rally people's thoughts, their spirit to the real problems, not just the symptoms. We tend to address the symptoms of problems and do not get back far enough to the environment that is causing these things to happen, and it is obviously very difficult to deal with the real disease at times and it is easy to deal on the surface with the symptoms.

I represent a county, Westchester County, which has the heights of affluence and the depths of poverty. We are Mt. Vernon and New Rochelle, Scarsdale and we have got a real problem with drugs in the southern tier of Westchester County. As you probably know, because you have worked with it as I have, it is just something that keeps increasing and the money is very difficult to find. Apparently people do not see it as you or as I do, maybe this committee, that if we do not provide the money now the cost to society later on with kids dropping out of the schools, not being able to access opportunity in jobs, not being able to keep families together, that the costs are so mind boggling we should not think for one minute about not providing them with the money now.

I just had a hearing in my district with a state senator, Mary Goodyear. The issue was PINS, persons in need of supervision. You know, we have this problem in our state whereby when the child gets 16 they literally cannot be forced into a drug program. They are considered adults for that purpose. So they cannot against their will be brought to a drug community and yet their parents are financially responsible for these kids until they are 18. So we have witnesses many of these parents in frustration at groups called Tough Love. I have exhorted Senator Goodyear to have a hearing on this. This is a state law, and we had a five-hour hearing and it was amazing what came out of that.

The bottom line of the hearing was that we were talking about the wrong thing. It was not persons in need of supervision. It was

families in need of services, because you do not have a problem with persons or children if the family unit is healthy.

I have to tell you that another thing came out of this hearing. It is this. We have in New York State a mandatory education age of 16. What is it doing at 16? Why isn't it 18? I think New York City has 17. We in the rest of the state have 16. When you think about services, the best service and the cheapest service is education. Think about what it costs when someone gets into a jail or gets into a drug program. You talk about multiples of 10,000, maybe 75,000 for a cell each year, maybe 40,000. I was on the board of Phoenix House for seven years and still as cheap as they could do it, I do not think they could do it for less than $40,000, but to educate a child costs less. Yet we do not seem to be putting money in and we are pushing the kids out on the street where they probably will be more susceptible to drugs.

So I say—and I am going to work with Senator Goodyear right now to raise the mandatory compulsory age, but it is not the answer. We are still treating the symptoms. If we deal with enough symptoms, we may tend to get to the problem as well, but we just cannot keep forcing the kids out at 16. They are not old enough to deal with these problems.

So I agree with everything you said. I hope that we are smart enough—and I am on two drug committees, I am on this one and on the Subcommittee of Government Operations, Subcommittee on Government Information, Justice and Agriculture which deals with interdiction, and I think the feeling is we talk too much about interdiction and there is too much money going to that and not enough into the education. Somehow we have got to get a better balance.

I do not have the answers. I know Chairman Rangel is doing a great job in making these issues public, taking them or raising public awareness about this, as is Chairman English of the other subcommittee, and I hope that we find the answers soon because the costs to society later are going to be mind boggling with the lack of education, inability to get jobs, inability to hold families together, raising kids without a good image of self-esteem, because their parents did not have it, and this is really what we have got to be worried about more than anything else.

But my perception is when we get here we think about one year at a time because we are more concerned about balancing the budget this year than usual, not to attack any one individual, but I am a businessman who spent 22 years as a CPA in New York and I am kind of appalled at the way we look at things. We do not have strategic plans for the future because everyone is focused on the fact we got a balanced budget this year, and sometimes we do not think about the quality of the judgments we must make to do that; so I am going to try my best to change it, but we need more people like you to keep telling us what you think the real focus should be.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.

Reverend Jackson, you have seen the good will expressed by this committee and it really reflects the feeling of the entire House which you have had the opportunity, on other occasions, to meet. You should feel free in the course of your crusade, if you will, to

allow the people to know that you do have a direct line to this committee and to the Congress; and while we are trying to prod the Administration to do more in education, in treatment, rehabilitation and job creation and trying to create that atmosphere that shows the danger that the drug crisis represents to our country and, indeed, to the world, you should feel free to know that whatever recommendations your staff has or will find in the future we are very, very anxious, because of the expertise that you have developed over the years, that you give them to us.

Reverend JACKSON. Mr. Chairman, if one cannot discuss interdiction to stop the dope from coming into the country and sheets and those ropes tied in nooses, we see that as the symbols of death because we have had mass education over a long period of time. Our alarm system goes off when we see the combination of sheet and rope. So far we have not been able to get the sense of alarm, sense of emergency, the sense of immorality, sense of un-Americanism and all the other great phrases that makes us jump about this dope situation.

Our teachers are limited, virtually hostages in schools many days because when I ask the children how many of you know someone who is taking drugs, almost all of them stand. And then I ask How many know someone who has brought a knife or gun to school, and they get back up. That many youth accessing drugs at one time, that kind of access to guns and knives, with a mind boggling drug means our teachers are operating in a very dangerous climate every day. We are having more and more cases of teachers being abused, shot at, killed every day. Maybe the most dangerous hour between nine and three in America on a given day is in the given school.

It would not bother me one bit to have metal detectors in schools as we do in other public places. Anybody coming in should not have a gun or a knife on them because when you consider the amount of drug abuse and the access to guns and knives, it makes it a whole different atmosphere in which to educate. We have airport security because we think Congressmen must be able to fly in safety and passengers, and I agree, and teachers need as much safety in that situation as do pilots; and you can document every year the growing number of violent outbreaks in classrooms and violent outbreaks at airports.

The CHAIRMAN. I really do not think that teachers have carried their full responsibility in focusing attention on this issue. Many of the problems that this committee have seen is that in schools with the biggest problems teachers are not willing and principals are not willing and school boards are not willing to admit that they have a problem. I can go right in my own community where we have the most honest citizens in the world in terms of town hall meetings and they will tell me to get rid of the drug pushers and put the addicts in jail, and I would know that they are talking about some of their children. And when I get them, they say that, you know, their child was exposed to bad people and what not, and he is not really that bad and the kid is driving a Mercedes.

It is unbelievable what you have been able to do with your personality and your magic in having people to recognize and admit that there is a problem. But one of the biggest problems that we

have with this Administration is that they have not admitted to the scope of the problem. I want to let you know that we are having some breakthroughs in a very negative way and how we take advantage of it, I do not know. But recently this committee has monitored statements that have been coming out of the State Department against the government of Mexico, that we should not take glee in the fact that the Assistant Secretary of State, the Commissioner of Customs, the spokesman for the State Department has called the government corrupt and say they are not doing anything about narcotics.

But it is showing that they are willing to make some statement about what is going on. They have said that the government of Bolivia has had a very disappointing experience in the movement of drugs, so somehow because of the connection between these governments survival and their dependency on U.S. narcotics money, there is a question of survival of these democracies that now even the State Department cannot keep its head in the hole about. It has not reached the President yet. It has not even reached the Secretary of State. You have never heard Kirkpatrick when she was at the UN speak out against drugs, and you have not heard Wallace. If your life depended on it, I would challenge you to tell me who in the State Department is responsible for coordinating international strategy. No one knows. No one cares. There is no one there.

If you would ask at the White House who does the President depend on, I would tell you Carlton Turner. You would not say, oh. You would say how long has he been there. He has been there for six years.

And so you were way out ahead of the curve, and our job is to try to nudge our government to catch up with you, and that is the way it is. And we do hope that you would share with us and the staff the benefit of your experience so we can in this struggle somehow as partners be considered sometime in the future as the Paul Reveres in letting them know that the enemy is coming and it is drugs.

Reverend JACKSON. Mr. Chairman, I must say in closing that I am delighted to have this chance to have shared my thoughts with you today. I do not depress or despair easily, but I still feel essentially unheard on this question. Even the media's almost casual interest in the testimony today against other things less threatening to us is symptomatic of the casualness with which we are approaching that which is in the homes of the media people themselves, it is in everybody's neighborhoods and houses. There is still a certain casualness as if this is kind of one of those things that does not belong in politics; it is kind of their problem.

The CHAIRMAN. What you said, if a kid needs a kidney or liver, the whole world does not want that little baby to die, and every day we have young people who are dying and we are not even paying attention to it. We do not even count them as our casualty. But we cannot give up, and you have not and there have been times that I have said that if this Congress is relying on me, it is worse than it should be because of the lack of interest. The members individually are concerned, but they are groping to try to find out what can we hold onto, what can we do, and you have said it.

It is an atmosphere and a climate of emergency and it is self-protection that has to be generated, and one of the things it could be—maybe I should rely on my friend from the State Department. But while we are focusing on Central America, it could be that drug trafficking in Mexico will bring to our borders a national security threat that we never faced before because of the government and the government officials and the people's dependence on the narcotic U.S. buck. And if that is the case, then we are exposed. Everything that this country stands for and wants to protect is exposed. If Bolivia goes, Peru goes, it is Argentina and Brazil and the rest who are exposed, but from everything you read in the paper in monitoring the State Department reporting, Congressman Henry Gonzalez said on national television he believes now based on these remarks that have been made that the CIA is actively involved in a plot, a conspiracy to overthrow the legitimate government of Mexico. He has been here over a quarter of a century, so he is not a man that makes irresponsible statements, and I am not saying he is right, but I am saying that it could very well be, Reverend, not the way you want our country to respond. There are other international forces that clearly show that we are in jeopardy and we may get the attention that we want.

Reverend JACKSON. I am convinced that these countries that struggled against us will not meet us by our definition of strength, F-111s. This is a war of the opiate and is a way of fighting us. I am rather convinced. I do not have a sense of paranoia and I am not driven by a conspiratorial notion of history, but I am rather convinced that the form of warfare being used against us is this drug trafficking, and at this point it is working in part because we are not resisting it in a major way.

The CHAIRMAN. What did you just say?

Reverend JACKSON. That I am convinced that the form of warfare being used to undercut our country is drug trafficking.

The CHAIRMAN. You believe this is an organized war or threat to us?

Reverend JACKSON. The organization may be psychological as in a general agreement that we as a country must be resisted, that they see us as the upholders of the banana republics, the Marcoses and the Somozas, see us as a part of the landed gentry they are fighting against and a way to fight us back is to drug our children on the one hand and make money from us on the other. They have a double advantage; that is of paralyzing the minds of our children and getting the money from their parents. And it is a profound form of warfare. One might call it the war of the opiate. It is very real.

The CHAIRMAN. The record will remain open for any statement you may want to put in. Thank you very much, Reverend.

[Whereupon, at 11:55 a.m., the committee was adjourned.]

PREPARED STATEMENTS

OPENING STATEMENT

OF

CHAIRMAN CHARLES B. RANGEL

SELECT COMMITTEE ON NARCOTICS ABUSE AND CONTROL

HEARING ON

DRUG ABUSE EDUCATION

May 21, 1986

GOOD MORNING.

TODAY THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON NARCOTICS ABUSE AND CONTROL CONTINUES ITS HEARINGS ON DRUG EDUCATION.

WE ARE EXTREMELY PLEASED TO HAVE AS OUR WITNESS THIS MORNING THE REVEREND JESSE JACKSON. REVEREND JACKSON HAS CRISSCROSSED THIS COUNTRY ON A ONE-MAN CRUSADE TO ENCOURAGE OUR SCHOOL CHILDREN NOT TO USE DRUGS. HE WILL SHARE WITH US HIS INSIGHTS INTO THE NATURE AND EXTENT OF THE DRUG ABUSE PROBLEM AMONG OUR NATION'S YOUTH. WE LOOK FORWARD TO HIS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PREVENTING OUR YOUNG PEOPLE FROM BECOMING VICTIMS OF DRUG ABUSE.

THERE IS LITTLE DISAGREEMENT THAT DRUG ABUSE IN OUR NATION'S SCHOOLS HAS REACHED EPIDEMIC PROPORTIONS AND MUST BE STOPPED TO SAVE OUR CHILDREN AND PROTECT OUR COUNTRY'S FUTURE. THE SOLUTIONS TO THIS PROBLEM, HOWEVER, ARE ELUSIVE.

YESTERDAY, OUR COMMITTEE HEARD TESTIMONY FROM THE HONORABLE JIM WRIGHT, THE MAJORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND EDUCATION SECRETARY WILLIAM J. BENNETT. IN HIS ELOQUENT STATEMENT, MR. WRIGHT EMPHASIZED A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM OF DRUG ABUSE AND DRUG TRAFFICKING FOCUSING ON THE "THREE E'S" -- ERADICATION, ENFORCEMENT AND EDUCATION. HE RECOMMENDED THAT THE PRESIDENT INITIATE A DIALOGUE WITH TOP LEADERS OF OTHER NATIONS, PARTICULARLY IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE, TO FIND WAYS OF WORKING TOGETHER TO STOP THE DRUG SCOURGE. HE OFFERED THE SUPPORT OF THE HOUSE LEADERSHIP IN FURTHERING SUCH

AN INITIATIVE THROUGH SIMILAR MEETINGS WITH PARLIAMENTARIANS OF THE AFFECTED COUNTRIES. THE MAJORITY LEADER ALSO RECOMMENDED STIFFER ENFORCEMENT OF DRUG LAWS IN OUR COUNTRY. ULTIMATELY, HE SAID, ANTI-DRUG EDUCATION IS THE ONLY REALLY EFFECTIVE ANTI-DOTE TO THE DRUG EPIDEMIC IN OUR SCHOOLS.

FOR SOME TIME NOW, FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL DRUG EDUCATION OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN TELLING US THAT DRUG EDUCATION IS THE ULTIMATE ANSWER TO DRUG ABUSE. THE PRESIDENT, AND OUR NATION'S TOP DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS HAVE MADE DRUG EDUCATION A CORNERSTONE OF THIS ADMINISTRATION'S DRUG STRATEGY.

WE WERE SURPRISED, THEN, WHEN THE NATION'S TOP EDUCATION OFFICIAL TOLD US YESTERDAY THAT ENFORCEMENT IS THE BEST WAY TO RID OUR SCHOOLS OF DRUGS. HE RECOMMENDED THAT SCHOOLS ADOPT A TOUGH, CONSISTENT POLICY THAT DRUGS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AND THAT THIS POLICY BE ENFORCED BY EXPELLING STUDENTS WHO DO NOT HEED THE MESSAGE.

WE HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH REMOVING DRUG DEALERS AND USERS FROM SCHOOL. BUT WE HAD HOPED THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION WOULD SHARE WITH US SOME THOUGHTS ON HOW THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT CAN HELP STATES AND LOCAL SCHOOLS TEACH CHILDREN ABOUT THE DANGERS OF DRUGS AND ARM THEM TO RESIST PRESSURES TO USE DRUGS THROUGHOUT

THEIR LIVES. INSTEAD, HE SAID THE DEPARTMENT HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO IDENTIFY ANY CURRICULUM OR PROGRAM THAT IS EFFECTIVE IN PREVENTING DRUG ABUSE. HE DID PROMISE TO ISSUE A REPORT THIS SUMMER DESCRIBING WHAT WORKS TO RID SCHOOLS OF DRUGS.

DRUG ABUSE AND DRUG TRAFFICKING ARE NATIONAL CRISES. EDUCATION ALONE IS NOT THE SOLUTION TO THESE PROBLEMS. WE NEED TO IMPROVE OUR ERADICATION AND ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS AS WELL. BUT, IT IS TIME WE RECOGNIZED THAT DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION AND EDUCATION MUST BE AN INTEGRAL PART OF ANY SOLUTION TO THE DRUG PROBLEM THREATENING OUR NATION. WE SHOULD BE TAKING IMMEDIATE ACTION TO EDUCATE OUR CHILDREN TO RESIST THE MASSIVE ONSLAUGHT OF DRUGS FLOODING OUR COMMUNITIES.

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS A CLEAR RESPONSIBILITY TO HELP SCHOOLS COPE WITH THE ENORMOUS PROBLEMS DRUGS ARE CREATING IN THE CLASSROOM. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ALSO HAS A ROLE TO PLAY IN HELPING EDUCATE OUR YOUNGSTERS NOT TO USE DRUGS. WHEN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ALLOCATES ONLY $3 MILLION TO DRUG EDUCATION OUT OF A BUDGET OF NEARLY $18 BILLION, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS FAILING TO MEET ITS DUTY TO HELP KEEP OUR SCHOOLS AND OUR CHILDREN SAFE FROM DRUGS.

Opening Statement of Congressman Benjamin A. Gilman

Drug Abuse Education hearing, Part II

May 21, 1986

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I too would like to welcome the Rev. Jesse Jackson to our midst today. As you all well know, yesterday we had an interesting discussion about Federal, State, and local efforts with the Majority Leader, Congressman Wright, and the Secretary of Education, Mr. William Bennett. Their thoughts and suggestions were greatly appreciated. Rev. Jackson's appearance before our Narcotics Select Committee today highlights what one person can accomplish in our war against the menace that is drug abuse.

Drug abuse among youngsters is growing at an alarming rate, and more and more we are witnessing cocaine as the first drug of choice. Even more insidious has been the use of "crack," a new form of cocaine which has proven to be even more addicting than cocaine.

Drug abuse has swept across our nation's school yards with a fervor rarely matched, and while the law enforcement community battles the narcotics traffickers with every tool at their disposal, it is clear that this rising tide cannot be stemmed unless and until we place a comprehensive emphasis on the dire need for drug abuse education.

Reverend Jackson's new campaign in our schools is to be commended. His service as a role model and catalyst for our young people serves as a clear alternative to the scourge of drugs. I look forward to hearing his views on the situation in our schools today, and to exploring what he believes is a proper response for all concerned.

TESTIMONY OF

PUSH/EXCEL

ON

DRUG ABUSE IN AMERICA

BEFORE THE

SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

NARCOTICS ABUSE AND CONTROL

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESENTED BY

THE REV. JESSE JACKSON

MAY 21, 1986

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

MY NAME IS THE REV. JESSE JACKSON. I AM FOUNDER OF PUSH FOR EXCELLENCE AND PRESIDENT OF THE RAINBOW COALITION.

DEMOSTHENES SAID, ''WHOM THE GODS WOULD DESTROY, THEY FIRST MAKE MAD.'' AMERICANS — BUT PARTICULARLY HER YOUTH — ARE BEING DRIVEN MAD WITH DRUGS. TIME, NEWSWEEK, ABC-TV'S ''NIGHTLINE'' HAVE ALL HELPED TO FOCUS PUBLIC ATTENTION ON THE GENERAL DRUG PROBLEM, BUT AMERICA STILL HAS NOT REALLY COME TO GRIPS WITH HOW DRUGS ARE AFFECTING ITS YOUTH.

WHILE THE GOVERNMENT RIGHTFULLY HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR STOPPING THE <u>SUPPLY</u> OF DRUGS FROM COMING ACROSS OUR BORDERS, THE ULTIMATE ANSWER TO THE DRUG PROBLEM IS TO DRY UP THE <u>DEMAND.</u>

THROUGH THE PUSH-EXCEL PROGRAM WE HAVE BEEN CONDUCTING AN ANTI-DRUG CRUSADE IN AMERICA'S JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS. WE ARE HELPING TO EXPOSE AND TO PULL THE SCAB OFF A VERY UGLY SORE AMONG AMERICA'S YOUTH. WE ARE REVEALING JUST HOW PERVASIVE THE DRUG PROBLEM IS.

EVERYWHERE I GO — INNER CITY AND SUBURB, AMONG THE RICH AND THE POOR, IN URBAN AND RURAL AMERICA — JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL YOUNG PEOPLE ARE SCREAMING ''YES'' IN OVERWHELMING NUMBERS TO FIVE BASIC QUESTIONS ABOUT THEIR PEERS: 1) DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS DEAD BECAUSE OF DRUGS?, 2) DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS IN JAIL BECAUSE OF DRUGS?, 3) DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS ON DRUGS?, 4) DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO HAS BROUGHT A KNIFE OR GUN TO SCHOOL?, AND 5) DO YOU KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO HAS DROPPED OUT OF SCHOOL BECAUSE OF PREGNANCY?

MY ARGUMENT TO STUDENTS IS THAT DRUGS ARE PHYSICALLY DESTRUCTIVE, LIFE THREATENING, AND WILL KILL YOU. BUT TO MY DISMAY, TOO MANY STUDENTS ARE UNCLEAR ABOUT THE CONSEQUENCES OF DRUG USE. IN DISCUSSION WITH STUDENTS, IT IS MY CONCLUSION THAT FOR MANY YOUNG PEOPLE, NEITHER THEIR MINDS NOR THEIR VALUES REJECT DRUGS.

IT IS NOT ONLY A THREAT TO OUR YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR FUTURE, BUT IT IS ALSO A NATIONAL SECURITY RISK. DRUG ABUSE IN THE MILITARY IS AT LEAST AS PERVASIVE AS IT IS IN OUR SCHOOLS, AND

THEY ARE USING MORE AND HARDER DRUGS. THUS, OUR SOLDIERS ARE VULNERABLE TO A ''WAR OF THE OPIATE.''

THE FIRST STEP IN SOLVING OUR DRUG PROBLEM IS TO RECOGNIZE IT AS A PROBLEM, WHICH MOST AMERICAN'S DO NOT. THIS DENIAL IS CHARACTERISTIC OF A FAMILY WITH A MEMBER WHO IS CHEMICALLY DEPENDENT. THE DENIAL OF A CHEMICALLY DEPENDENT PERSON IS SO STRONG THAT IT EXTENDS TO THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THAT PERSON'S FAMILY, SO THAT THEY, TOO, FALL INTO THE TRAP OF EITHER DENYING THAT A PROBLEM EXISTS OR THAT HALF MEASURES WILL ADDRESS THE NEED.

OUR NATION HAS ACTED AS THAT FAMILY. WE HAVE SONS AND DAUGHTERS, BROTHERS AND SISTERS, FATHERS AND MOTHERS, AUNTS AND UNCLES, COUSINS, AND IN-LAWS WHO ARE CHEMICALLY ABUSIVE, AND WE DENY AND DENY AND DENY THAT THERE IS A PROBLEM OR THAT THEIR PROBLEM IS OUR PROBLEM. IT IS TIME, TODAY, FOR THAT DENIAL TO STOP.

WHEN AN INDIVIDUAL OR A FAMILY HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN DENIAL FOR A LONG PERIOD OF TIME, THE SITUATION REQUIRES INTERVENTION.

OFTEN THERE IS A CRISIS WHICH LEADS TO INTERVENTION, BUT MORE FREQUENTLY, THE MEMBERS OF THAT FAMILY DECLARE A CRISIS AND MOVE TO INTERVENE.

THE EXTENT OF DRUG USE IN AMERICA IS A NATIONAL DISASTER. AND THE SALE AND USE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS IN OUR SCHOOLS HAS CREATED A STATE OF EMERGENCY.

OUR YOUTH ARE PULLED INTO THE WEB OF DRUG ABUSE THROUGH THE NEW MORALITY, OR, MORE ACCURATELY, LACK OF MORALS. AT THE SAME TIME THEY ARE PUSHED INTO DRUG ABUSE AS AN ESCAPE FROM PAIN.

THE DISEASE OF CHEMICAL ABUSE GROWS IN THE FERTILE GROUND OF PAIN: PAIN ARISING FROM POVERTY, FROM HUNGER, FROM FEAR, FROM A LOW SELF-CONCEPT, FROM ABUSIVE FAMILIES, FROM A LACK OF OPPORTUNITY.

THE PAIN GROWS OUT OF UNEMPLOYMENT. TODAY'S CHILDREN WATCH -- FILLED WITH PAIN AND A SENSE OF IMPOTENCE -- AS THEIR FAMILY'S WAY OF LIFE IS STOPPED SHORT. FARM CHILDREN WATCH DEMORALIZED AS THE LAND OF THEIR FATHERS' FATHERS' FATHERS IS TRANSFERED INTO THE HANDS OF A BANK, A BANK WHICH MAY ITSELF FAIL THE NEXT DAY.

FACTORY CHILDREN STAND HELPLESS OUTSIDE THE PADLOCKED GATES OF FACTORIES THAT PROVIDED JOBS FOR THEIR FAMILIES FOR GENERATIONS. URBAN CHILDREN LOOK OUT OVER THE BURNED OUT, CRUMBLING BUILDINGS AND PARKS TAKEN OVER BY AN ARMY OF DRUG PUSHERS. THE EYES OF RURAL CHILDREN STING AT THE ERODING TOPSOIL BLOWN INTO THEIR FACES. BOTH URBAN AND RURAL CHILDREN FEEL POWERLESS AS TOXIC WASTES ARE PUMPED INTO THE GROUNDWATER AND BURIED IN THE GROUND. AS THEIR HOPE DIES, THEY TURN TO ESCAPE.

THE PAIN GROWS OUT OF A LOW SELF-IMAGE. OUR YOUNG PEOPLE ARE BEATEN DOWN EVERY DAY WITH THE CONCEPT THAT POOR MEANS BAD, A CONCEPT THAT IS REINFORCED IN MOVIES, ON TELEVISION, IN MAGAZINES, AND EVERY OTHER ASPECT OF OUR CULTURE. OUR YOUNG PEOPLE ARE BEATEN DOWN EVERY DAY BY THE VESTIGES OF RACISM THAT IS STILL IN THE PROCESS OF BEING REINSTITUTIONALIZED. OUR YOUNG PEOPLE ARE BEATEN DOWN EVERY DAY AS VICTIMS OF THE CYCLE OF PHYSICAL, SEXUAL, AND PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE CHARACTERISTIC OF DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILIES. AS THEIR SPIRIT DIES THEY TURN TO ESCAPE.

THE PAIN GROWS OUT OF FEAR, FEAR OF NUCLEAR CONFLAGRATION OR OF BEING ATTACKED IN FRONT OF THEIR OWN HOME, FEAR THAT IS REINFORCED BY THE VIOLENT IMAGES ON TELEVISION -- IN ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMS AND THE EVENING NEWS, FEAR THAT IS REINFORCED BY A SOCIETY THAT PLACES A HIGHER PREMIUM ON BUILDING WEAPONS OF DESTRUCTION IN SPACE THAN ON FEEDING THE HUNGRY ON THE GROUND. AS LIFE AROUND THEM DIES, THEY TURN TO ESCAPE.

THE PAIN GROWS OUT OF ISOLATION AND ALIENATION. OUR YOUNG PEOPLE ARE BORN WITH A SPIRIT THAT LOVES HUMANKIND, THAT LOVES LIFE ITSELF. BUT THEIR SPIRIT IS TURNED AWAY FROM A DEHUMANIZING WORLD. THEIR SPIRIT IS TURNED AWAY FROM A WORLD THAT SEEMS COMMITTED TO ERADICATING LIFE. THEIR SPIRIT IS TURNED AWAY, AND TO MANY, IT SEEMS THEY HAVE NOTHING TO TURN TO.

BUT WE CAN TURN THIS THING AROUND. AS I TRAVEL AROUND THE COUNTRY SPEAKING IN SCHOOLS, THOUSANDS OF JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH HAVE COME FORWARD PLEDGING TO GIVE LIFE A CHANCE AND GIVE THEMSELVES A CHANCE BY SAYING ''NO'' TO DOPE AND ''YES'' TO HOPE.

WE CAN HELP RAISE OUR CHILDREN'S IMAGE OF THEMSELVES. WE CAN GIVE THEM A SENSE OF POWER AND CONTROL OVER THEIR LIVES AND THEIR WORLD. WE CAN ENLIST THEM IN THE STRUGGLE TO MEET THE CHALLENGES THAT FACE THIS GENERATION AND THE NEXT GENERATION.

WE CAN INSTILL CONFIDENCE IN OUR YOUNG PEOPLE. WE HAVE THE RESOURCES AND THE SKILLS TO GIVE THEM THE INTELLECTUAL, MORAL, AND EMOTIONAL STRENGTH AND COURAGE TO MEET THE CHALLENGES, IF WE WILL ONLY MAKE THAT A PRIORITY.

WE CAN OVERCOME THEIR DOUBTS AND FEARS AND SENSE OF POWERLESSNESS BY ENLISTING OUR YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE STRUGGLE TO INFUSE VIGOR INTO OUR ECONOMY, TO FOSTER GREATER INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, TO BUILD A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT FOR THIS GENERATION AND THE GENERATIONS TO COME.

WE CAN AND WE MUST PUT IN THE HANDS OF OUR YOUTH THE TOOLS TO BUILD A BETTER WORLD, A WORLD FROM WHICH THEY WILL NOT WANT TO ESCAPE. WHEN OUR YOUNG PEOPLE UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF EFFORT, SELF-DISCIPLINE, TEAM WORK, AND CHARACTER, WHEN THEY UNDERSTAND THESE THEY ARE THE KEYS AND THE ONLY KEYS TO SUCCESS,

THEY WILL FIND THE MOTIVATION TO CHASE THE PUSHER OUT OF THE SCHOOLYARD, OFF THE CORNER, OUT OF THE PARKS. THEY THEMSELVES WILL STOP THE SUPPLY.

THE GOVERNMENT, THE SCHOOL, THE CHURCH, AND THE HOME ALL MUST PLAY A PART IN THE SOLUTION, BUT ULTIMATELY THE KEY TO MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THIS PROBLEM IS OUR NATION'S YOUTH. OUR YOUNG PEOPLE MUST REJECT DRUGS AND ALCOHOL WITH THEIR MINDS AND THEIR VALUES. ANYTHING SHORT OF THAT WILL FAIL.

THANK YOU.

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